

PATENT

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In re Application of

Lawrence WILCOCK

Serial No. n/a

Group Art Unit: Unknown

Examiner: Unknown

Filed: Herewith

For: AUDIO USER INTERFACE WITH SELECTIVELY-MUTABLE SYNTHESISED SOUND SOURCES

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PRELIMINARY AMENDMENT

Honorable Commissioner of
Patents and Trademarks
Washington, D. C. 20231

Sir:

Prior to examination on the merits, please amend the referenced application as follows:

IN THE CLAIMS:

Please amend claim 22 as follows:

22. (amended) Apparatus for providing an audio user interface in which items are represented in an audio field by corresponding synthesized sound sources from where sounds related to the items appear to emanate, the apparatus comprising:

- a data store for storing data concerning the sound sources, this data including grouping data associating sound sources in groups of at least one sound source;
- a rendering-position determining arrangement operative to determine, for each said sound source, an associated rendering position at which the sound source is to be synthesized to sound in the audio field;
- an audibility-determining arrangement operative to determine the audibility of each sound source based on its group, the audibility-determining arrangement being further operative to automatically and cyclically change the audibility of the sound sources such as to unmute the sound sources of each group in turn for a limited period with the sound sources of